

official language have been included in the Central Secretariat Official Language Service and the recruitment to the posts included in the Central Secretariat Official Language Service is made by the Department of Official Language. The vacancies in the cadre of Junior Hindi Translator have been reported to them for nominating candidates to fill in the vacant posts at the earliest.

Water supply schemes forwarded by Government of Assam

2841. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of water supply schemes forwarded by the Government of Assam for sanction and approval of Government under the various Centrally-sponsored schemes during the last three years;
- (b) if so, whether the above schemes have sanctioned;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) to (d) Drinking water supply being a State subject, the schemes for supply of safe drinking water are implemented by the State Governments from their own resources. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) and the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP). Powers have been delegated to the States to plan, sanction and implement individual rural water supply schemes. Hence, State Governments are not required to seek the approval of Government of India for implementing individual rural drinking water supply schemes, except in the case of sector reform pilot projects for institutionalising community participation in the Rural Water Supply Programme. Proposals received from the State Government of Assam in respect of the sector reform projects in the following identified pilot districts of the State have been

sanctioned by the Government of India and are at various stages of implementation at present:

(Rs. in lakhs)

s. No	Name of the Pilot District	Sanctioned Project Cost	GOI share Firs t	installmen t release
1.	Jorhat .	1275.00	1188.600	356.580
2.	Kamrup	0	935.000	280.500
3.	Sonitpur	1000.00	1103.489	331.047
		0		

Under AUWSP, 12 projects belonging to the State of Assam have been approved up to the year 1999-2000 at an estimated of cost Rs. 2448.44 lakh.

Providing drinking water and sanitation to rural population

2842. SHRIMATI VANG A GEETHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that majority of our rural population is devoid of pure drinking water and sanitation ever after more than five decades of our independence;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any time-bound scheme has been formulated by Governments to provide pure drinking water and better sanitation to all the rural masses; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) As far as Rural Water Supply Programme is concerned, drinking water supply being a State subject, Scheme for providing drinking water facilities to rural habitations are implemented by the State from their own resources. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme(ARWSP) and the Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY). Powers have been delegated